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Consideration of future programme focus

Draft programme of work for 2016-2017

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with the strategic framework of ESCAP for the period 2016-2017, this document outlines the proposed programme of work for subprogramme 3 on Transport for the biennium 2016-2017.

The Committee may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on the draft programme of work and may also wish to endorse the proposal to convene the third session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport in 2016, in lieu of the fifth session of the Committee on Transport, which otherwise would be scheduled for that year.

I. Introduction

1. As stated in the strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, the overall objective of subprogramme 3 is "to enhance regional cooperation and integration in transport for inclusive and sustainable development".[1] In doing so, the secretariat will continue its support to members and associate members in their efforts to reach sustainable development outcomes with safe, clean and efficient transport systems with the vision of an international, integrated, intermodal transport and logistics system connecting the Asia-Pacific region.

2. The activities of the proposed work programme were primarily drawn from the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2012-2016),[2] and the Ministerial Declaration on Transport as a Key to Sustainable Development and Regional Integration adopted by the second session of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport, held in November

* E/ESCAP/CTR(4)/L.1.

1 Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, Part two: biennial programme plan, Programme 16: Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific. See A/69/6, pp. 8-9.

2 E/ESCAP/68/9, annex I.

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2013.[3] It also takes into consideration the priorities that are being deliberated for developing sustainable development goals that will define the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.

3. Chapter II of the present document outlines the draft programme of work for subprogramme 3, corresponding to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement established in the strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017.

4. Work programme activities will be implemented in collaboration with other entities within the secretariat, other international, regional and subregional organizations as well as other regional commissions and transport associations that are active in the development of the region's transport systems. Recognizing the significance of transport in achieving inclusive and sustainable development, the implementation of those activities will enhance the contribution of the transport sector to attaining inclusive and sustainable development in other sectors. In terms of its technical assistance activities, the secretariat will continue to focus on countries with special needs, namely the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. Special consideration will also be given to mainstreaming gender considerations while implementing the proposed programme of work.

II. Draft programme of work for subprogramme 3 on transport, 2016-2017

5. The strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017 established expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for subprogramme 3 on Transport.

6. The following table outlines the first expected accomplishment and indicator of achievement.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to develop and implement transport policies and programmes that support inclusive, equitable and sustainable development and are gender responsive	(a) Increased number of measures by member States to implement policies and programmes on sustainable transport and road safety, including those that are gender-responsive

7. The proposed outputs under expected accomplishment (a) are outlined below.

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) ESCAP Parliamentary documentation: reports on issues related to transport (1) (2016), (1) (2017);

(ii) ESCAP Ministerial Conference on Transport:

[3] E/ESCAP/70/12, chapter I A.

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary (6) (2016);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Ministerial Conference on Transport (1) (2016); report on major issues related to transport (1) (2016);

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups: Expert group meeting on sustainable and inclusive transport development (1) (2016);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Recurrent publications:

a. Review of Developments in Transport in Asia and the Pacific (1) (2017);

b. Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (1) (2016), (1) (2017);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: monograph series on sustainable and inclusive transport development (1) (2017);

(iii) Technical materials:

a. Regional progress on the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety (1) (2017);

b. Updating of manual and software for transport policy (Integrated Transport Planning Model) (1) (2017);

c. Regional intermodal container traffic forecast study (1) (2017);

(c) Technical cooperation field projects (regular budget/ extrabudgetary):

(i) Strengthening the capacity of member States to formulate and implement policies and measures for development of economically viable, environmentally sound and socially inclusive national and urban transportation systems, including in support of the sustainable development goals (1) (2016-2017);

(ii) Strengthening the capacity of member States to formulate and implement policies to improve road safety (1) (2016-2017);

(iii) Strengthening capacity of member States to mobilize finance from various sources, including the private sector, for sustainable transport infrastructure development (1) (2016-2017).

8. The following table outlines the second expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(b) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to plan, develop and implement international intermodal transport linkages, including the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network, inter-island shipping and dry ports of international importance	(b) (i) Increased number of national projects and programmes to upgrade regional transport infrastructure including the Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway, inter-island shipping and dry ports of international importance
	(ii) Increased number of ESCAP member signatories and parties to global, regional and subregional agreements

9. The proposed outputs under expected accomplishment (b) are outlined below.

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs:

a. Working Group on the Asian Highway Network (1) (2017);

b. Working Group on the Trans-Asian Railway Network (1) (2017);

c. Working Group on dry ports (1) (2017);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Technical materials:

a. Updating of the geographic information systems (GIS) database on transport, the Asian Highway database and the Trans-Asian Railway database (1) (2016-2017);

b. Maps of the integrated intermodal transport network, the Asian Highway and the Trans-Asian Railway (3) (2016-2017);

(c) Technical cooperation field projects (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Strengthening capacity of member States to develop and operationalize an integrated regional transport network, including the Asian Highway, the Trans-Asian Railway and dry ports of international importance (1) (2016-2017);

(ii) Strengthening the capacity of policymakers and the private sector to develop and manage efficient and sustainable regional/subregional transport connectivity, including inter-island shipping (1) (2016-2017).

10. The following table outlines the third expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States and the private sector to initiate and implement measures to improve the efficiency of international transport operations and logistics	(c) (i) Increased number of measures to remove bottlenecks and facilitate efficient movements of people and goods and means of transport along transport routes and at border crossings
	(ii) Increased number of measures taken by countries to improve logistics performance

11. The proposed outputs under expected accomplishment (c) are outlined below.

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Ad hoc expert groups: Expert group meeting on integrated use of a single window for trade and transport facilitation (1) (2017);

(ii) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA); working group on transport and border crossing (2) (2016-2017);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Technical materials

a. Updating of training materials on freight forwarding, multimodal transport and logistics (1) (2016);

b. Updating of transport facilitation model (1) (2017);

c. Meeting the needs of a single window for trade and transport facilitation (1) (2017);

(c) Technical cooperation field projects (regular budget/ extrabudgetary):

(i) Strengthening capacity of member States to formulate and implement transport facilitation measures (1) (2016-2017);

(ii) Strengthening capacity of policymakers and private sector to develop efficient freight forwarding, multimodal transport and logistics services (1) (2016-2017).

12. It is expected that the objectives and accomplishments under subprogramme 3 will be met assuming the following: (a) that Governments of members and associate members are willing to collaborate and are able to implement the proposed progammes and projects within the period; and (b) that adequate extrabudgetary resources are mobilized to ensure the necessary research, outreach and depth of technical cooperation activities.

III. Issues for consideration

13. The Committee may wish to comment on the draft programme of work for 2016-2017 and provide guidance on the future programme focus area.

14. The Committee may also wish to endorse the proposal to convene the third session of the ministerial conference on transport in 2016, in lieu of the fifth session of the Committee on Transport, which otherwise would be scheduled for that year.